



## STATE EMPLOYEE RECYCLING PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2005

The following are the newest locations that have been added to the SERP Program; the Tennessee Lottery Office in Johnson City, TN, Fall Creek Falls State Park, Long Hunter State Park, TN Care, Safety Titles & Registration, TN Highway Patrol & Supply, TDOT Hanger, & TRICOR.

The purpose of the State Employee Recycling Program is to provide a means for State Employees to be able to recycle various commodities by avoiding unnecessary landfill cost.

The State Employee Recycling Program is a four-time EPA National Award winning program. We have won the State Government Partner of the Year Award the past three years and honorable mention our first year.

The Department of Environment and Conservation leads by example. Encouraging organizations across the state to adopt similar waste prevention and recycling programs.

Recycling is a Key Component of the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation's Waste Reduction Program.

In 2005 TDEC Staff Held Several Collection Events for Employees, to Facilitate the Reuse of Recyclable Commodities. In 2005 we collected 4,420 pounds of clothes during the two weeklong clothes drive. We hold our events on Wednesdays & Thursday's in May from 7-9am & 3-5pm.

TDEC's Toys & Coats that are collected are donated to the Community Resource Center. In 2005 we collected 317 Toys and 10 coats.

The Office of Environmental Assistance Mercury Thermometer Exchanges and works with State Employees, Senior Citizen's Centers, Nursing Homes, and Health Facilities. We have exchanged over 2,000 mercury thermometers with Digital and Non-Mercury ones since our program began two years ago.

Tennessee's Welcome Center Recycling is a pilot project that implements PETE plastic bottle collection, and aluminum recycling. Since we began this pilot project on March 30, 2004 we have collected 2,402 pounds of plastic & 3,720 pounds of aluminum.

Thirty-Six Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas are currently recycling one or more commodities at the present time.

Recognizing that supporting recycling markets for various commodities is important, employees contributed used cell phones for use in domestic safety programs, as well as eyeglasses for reuse. Other items recycled include coat hangers, rechargeable batteries, florescent bulbs, inkjet cartridges, & greeting cards at TDEC's Green Cubicle.

The Office of Environmental Assistance provided a booth at the 2005 America Recycles Day at Centennial Park. This allowed us to hand out various pamphlets of information to the citizens of Tennessee along with various other vendors.

Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Green Schools Award Program reaches out to Tennessee Colleges and Universities as well as K-12 schools to recognize those schools that have completed various steps in pollution prevention.

The office of Environmental Assistance reminds employees to always purchase products that contain recycled materials in them. We encourage everyone to look for the recycle content label on all purchases.

Other projects and events that we are involved in include: Tennessee Recycling Coalition, Used Oil Program Collection Events, State Park Marina Recycling Program, Household Hazardous Waste Events, and Earth Day. Working with our communities continues to be successful and rewarding.